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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Inventors:

Hiroyuki EHARA

Application No.:

09/914,916

September 6, 2001

MULTIMODE SPEECH CODING APPARATUS AND DECODING **APPARATUS**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to Rules 56 and 99, Applicants hereby call the attention of the Patent Office to the reference(s) listed on the attached Form PTO 1449. JP '896, JP '199, JP '798, JP'000, JP '593, and JP '096 were cited in a Search Report dated April 24, 2001 (copy attached) and the ICASSP article is discussed in the background section of the application.

Applicants present this art so that the Patent Office may, in the first instance, determine any relevancy thereof to the presently claimed invention, see Beckman Instruments, Inc. v. Chemtronics, Inc., 439 F.2d 1369, 1380, 165 USPQ 355, 364 (5th Cir. 1970). Also see Patent Office Rules 104 and 106.

Technology Center 2600

Applicants respectfully r qu st that this art be expr ssly considered during the prosecution of this application and made of record herein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue herefrom.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 21, 2001

James E. Ledbetter Registration No. 28,732

JEL/ejw

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. L9289.01180

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FORM PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce (Rev. 4/92) Patent and Trademark Office

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

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APPLICANT

Hir yuki EHARA

FILING DATE September 6, 2001 GROUP Uassigned

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EXAMINER: Initial if citation is considered, draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.